

News from the FPPC

California Fair Political Practices Commission
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For Immediate Release: April 13, 2006

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FPPC Enforcement Decisions: April 13, 2006

The following are enforcement decisions approved by the Fair Political Practices Commission at its regular monthly meeting held in Sacramento on Thursday, April 13, 2006. Decisions are divided by category and include a brief summary of each case and the total amount of the fine or fines in each case.

Additional information on each of the enforcement cases below can be found in the April agenda on the FPPC website at <http://www.fppc.ca.gov>. FPPC agendas are distributed and posted on the agency website 10 days prior to each monthly meeting.

The web version of the agenda includes links to the stipulations agreed to by the commission and by the individuals and organizations subject to the fines, or the default decisions ordered by the commission. Exhibits in support of the stipulations and default decisions are also available on the website. If you are unable to access the FPPC website, or need further assistance, please call the FPPC communications office at (916) 322-7761.

Accepting Contribution in State Office Building (Default Decision)

In the Matter of Kevin Shelley, FPPC No. 04/575. Staff: Senior Commission Counsel Melodee A. Mathay and Investigator III Sandra Buckner. In May 2003, Respondent Kevin Shelley, the California Secretary of State from January 2003 to March 2005, and a former member of the State Assembly from 1996 through 2002, received a \$2,000 campaign contribution in his state office in San Francisco, in violation of section 84309, subdivision (a). (1 count.) \$5,000 fine.

Conflict of Interest

In the Matter of Robert Good, FPPC No. 05/743. Staff: Commission Counsel Tom Dyer and Investigator III Leon Nurse-Williams. As a council member for the City of Albany, Respondent Robert Good violated the Political Reform Act by making two governmental decisions in which he had a financial interest on November 1, 2004 and October 17, 2005, in violation of Government Code section 87100. (2 counts.) \$5,000 fine.

Campaign Reporting Violations

In the Matter of Physicians for the Group Practice of Medicine and Pauline Fox, FPPC No. 05/529. Staff: Commission Counsel Amanda Saxton and Investigator Elaine Olmos-Flores. Respondent Physicians for the Group Practice of Medicine is a general purpose recipient committee sponsored by the Permanente Medical Group, Inc. and the Southern California Permanente Medical Group, and Respondent Pauline Fox served as its treasurer. Respondents failed to maintain the detailed accounts, records, bills, and receipts necessary to prepare a semi-annual campaign statement, in violation of Government Code section 84104. (1 count.) \$1,200 fine.

In the Matter of Priya Mathur and Friends of Priya Mathur, FPPC No. 03/296. Staff: Commission Counsel Amanda Saxton. Respondent Priya Mathur was a successful candidate for the Public Agency Member Seat on the Public Employees' Retirement System's Board of Administration ("CalPERS Board") in the 2002 election, Respondent Friends of Priya Mathur was her controlled committee, and Respondent Mathur served as its treasurer. Respondents failed to timely file campaign statements in violation of Government Code section 84225, subdivision (c) (2 counts); and Respondent Mathur failed to timely file her annual statement of economic interests in violation of Government Code section 87203. (1 count.) \$6,000 fine.

Contribution Limit Violations

In the Matter of Lloyd Levine and Lloyd Levine for Assembly, FPPC No. 04/651. Staff: Senior Commission Counsel Melodee A. Mathay and Accounting Specialist Luz Bonetti. Respondent Lloyd Levine, a member of the California State Assembly - 40th Assembly District, and his controlled committee, Lloyd Levine for Assembly, accepted a loan in excess of the \$3,000 contribution limits in December 2001, in violation of Government Code section 85301, subdivision (a) (1 count), and failed to properly report the source of the loan on three campaign statements, in violation of Government Code sections 85309, subdivision (a) (1 count) and 84211, subdivision (g). (2 counts.) \$12,000 fine.

In the Matter of Larry Levine and Jennifer Levine, FPPC No. 04/651. Staff: Senior Commission Counsel Melodee A. Mathay and Accounting Specialist Luz Bonetti.

Respondents Larry Levine and Jennifer Levine, of Van Nuys, California, are the parents of Lloyd Levine, a member of the California State Assembly - 40th Assembly District. In December 2001, Respondents made a loan to Lloyd Levine in excess of the \$3,000 contribution limits, in violation of Government Code section 85301, subdivision (a). (1 count.) \$4,000 fine.

Lobbying Reporting Violations

In the Matter of NEC Technologies, Inc., FPPC No. 02/318. Staff: Commission Counsel Kourtney Vaccaro. Respondent NEC Solutions (America), Inc., formerly known as NEC Technologies, Inc., a Global Fortune 500 technology and computer company and a registered lobbyist employer, failed to timely file six paper lobbyist employer reports, in violation of Government Code section 86117, subdivision (a), (6 counts), and three electronic lobbyist employer reports, in violation of Government Code section 84605, subdivision (d). (3 counts.) \$31,500 fine.

Late Contribution – Streamlined Program

Failure to Timely File Late Contribution Reports – Proactive Program. Chief Investigator Sue Straine and Political Reform Consultant Mary Ann Kvasager. The following entity has entered into a stipulation for failure to file a late contribution report in 2004 in violation of Government Code Section 84203:

- **In the Matter of Law Offices of Masry & Vititoe, FPPC No. 05/706.** Law Offices of Masry & Vititoe located in Westlake Village failed to timely disclose a late contribution totaling \$15,000.00. (1 count.) \$2,250 fine.

Major Donor – Streamlined Program

Failure to Timely File Major Donor Campaign Statements. Chief Investigator Sue Straine and Political Reform Consultant Mary Ann Kvasager. The following entities have entered into stipulations for failing to file major donor campaign statements that were due during calendar years 2001 and 2002, in violation of Government Code Section 84200:

- **In the Matter of Cendant Corporation, FPPC No. 06/082.** Cendant Corporation of Parsippany, New Jersey failed to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement disclosing contributions totaling \$10,000.00 in 2001. (1 count.) \$400 fine.
- **In the Matter of Avis Rent A Car System, Inc., FPPC No. 06/083.** Avis Rent A Car System, Inc. from Parsippany, New Jersey failed to timely file semi-annual campaign statements disclosing contributions totaling \$60,400.00 in 2002. (2 counts.) \$1,354 fine.

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